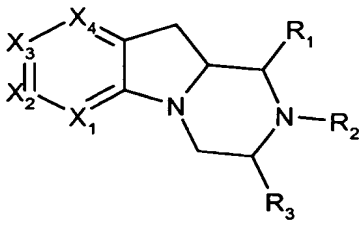
Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a chemical compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_1 to R_3 are independently selected from hydrogen and lower alkyl;

X_1 is C-R_4;

X_2 is C-R_5;

X_3 is C-R_6;

X_4 is C-R_7;

R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 ~~R_6 and R_7~~ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, ~~hydroxy,~~ alkyl, ~~aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkoyl, aryloyl,~~ haloalkyl, haloalkoxy and alkylthio;[[,]] ~~arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano, carboalkoxy, carboaryloxy and carboxy;~~ and

~~R_6 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino and cyano;~~

with the proviso that R_4 to R_7 are not all selected as hydrogen,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or addition compound thereof; in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

2. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is selected from hydrogen and methyl.

3. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is hydrogen.

4. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is selected from hydrogen and methyl.

5 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein two of R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen.

10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, wherein R_4 and R_6 are hydrogen.

11. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein two of R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are independently selected from hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, trifluoromethyl and bromine.

12. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein three of R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen.

13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, wherein R_4, R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_4 is hydrogen.

15. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_5 is halogen.

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_6 is hydrogen.

17. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_7 is halogen.

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 which is selected from:

(*RS*) 7-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(*R5*) 9-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(*RS*) 7-chloro-8-methyl-l,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(10a*R*) 7-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(*RS*) 7-bromo-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(3*S*, 10a*R*) 8-chloro-2-methyl-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,

(10a*R*) 8-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole and

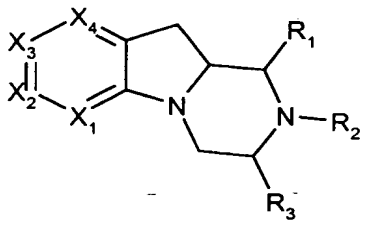
(3*S*, 10a*R*) 8-chloro-2-methyl-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole.

19 – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment of obesity, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective dose of a compound of formula (I) as set out in claim 1.

30 – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I): ~~according to claim 1,~~



(I)

wherein:

R_1 to R_3 are independently selected from hydrogen and lower alkyl;

X_1 is C-R_4;

X_2 is C-R_5;

X_3 is C-R_6;

X_4 is C-R_7;

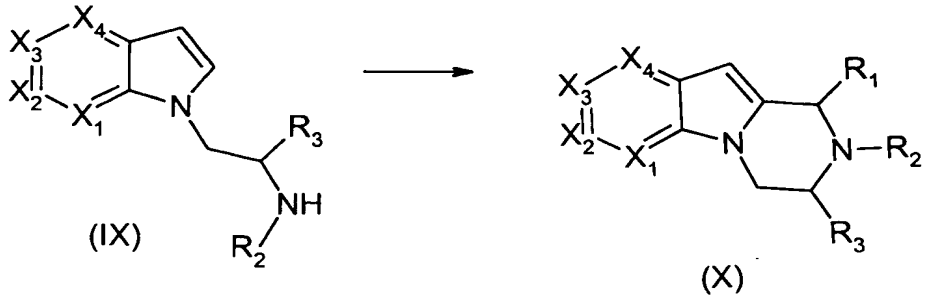
R_4, R_5 and R_7 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkoyl, aryloyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano, carboalkoxy, carboaryloxy and carboxy; and

R_6 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino and cyano;

with the proviso that R_4 to R_7 are not all selected as hydrogen,

said process comprising the steps of:

(i) treating a compound of formula (IX) with an aldehyde of formula R, CHO and then exposing to acid to obtain a compound of formula (X), wherein X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, R_2 and R_3 are as described in claim 1, and



(IX) (X)

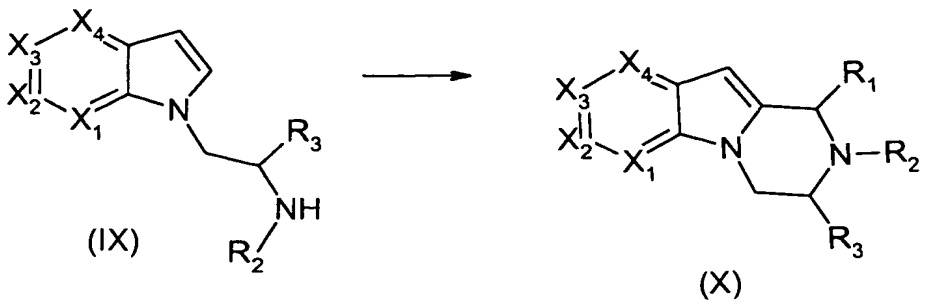
(ii) reduction of a compound of formula (X).

35. (New) A process according to claim 34 with the proviso that where R_1 to R_3 and three of R_4 to R_7 are selected from hydrogen, the remaining R_4 to R_7 is not selected from methoxy.

36. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I)

said process comprising the steps of:

(i) treating a compound of formula (IX) with an aldehyde of formula R, CHO and then exposing to acid to obtain a compound of formula (X), wherein X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, R_2 and R_3 are as described in claim 1, and



(IX) (X)

(ii) reduction of a compound of formula (X).